



ISSUE BRIEF

Support HB 2364

The Renew Massachusetts Coalition strongly supports Rep. David DeCoste's HB 2364 which would protect workers rights by making Massachusetts a Right to Work state.

Right to Work laws prohibit unions and employers from requiring union membership or payment of union dues as a condition of employment. When a state passes such a law, there are generally major economic and political ramifications.

Workers should have the right to decide if they wish to be a part of a union or not, and should have the freedom to choose to be a union member or to not be a union member. Right to work laws restore worker choice and freedom and expand employment opportunities for workers.

Right to work laws have also been proven to improve the overall economic climate of a state, by making it more competitive with other states and by rising worker wages.

Right to Work states usually see faster economic growth, more job creation, and higher worker earnings. Manufacturing and distribution companies are more frequently willing to move their plants to Right to Work states, while avoiding states where Right to Work laws are not in force.

The MBTA has seen great improvements in the experience of riders and in its financial situation by granting a small reprieve from union

demands by temporarily suspending the Pacheco law and instituting a control board. The small step of not completely blocking privatization has had a positive impact, and Right to Work would have an even larger one.

Right to Work laws also serve to check the political clout of unions by freeing workers from contributing their hard earned dollars to political causes with which they disagree. Worker choice and freedom of conscience are expanded politically as well when states enact Right to Work laws. No one should be forced to subsidize political ideas and candidates they disagree with through forced union membership.

QUICK FACTS

- There are currently 28 Right to Work states in the U.S.
- Right to Work has come close to passage in New Hampshire and is gaining traction in Maine
- Currently, 11.1 percent of the U.S. workforce are members of unions (including public and private sector employees) – down from 35 percent in the mid-1950s.
- Right to Work states usually see faster economic growth, more job creation, and higher worker earnings.
- Manufacturing and distribution companies are more frequently willing to move their plants to Right to Work states, while avoiding states where Right to Work laws are not in force.



VOTE YES on HB 2364